

MINUTES

FORT MYERS BEACH TOWN COUNCIL TOWN HALL – COUNCIL CHAMBERS

2523 ESTERO BOULEVARD FORT MYERS BEACH, FLORIDA 33931

WORKSESSION

Monday July 12, 2010

2:00 P.M.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kiker called the meeting to order at 2 p.m. Present with Mayor Kiker, Vice Mayor Raymond, Council members List and Mandel, Town Manager Stewart, Finance Director Evelyn Wicks, Town Attorney Jim Humphrey, Town Clerk Mayher as well as Carl Nelson from Fowler White Boggs. Councilmember Babcock absent.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. PRESENTATION – CARL NELSON, FOWLER WHITE BOGGS

Town Attorney Humphrey began by informing Council he had spoken with Councilmember Babcock by phone regarding joining the days meeting by phone with a review of the Attorney General's opinion along with Council's own policy regarding medical reasons and extra ordinary reasons for an absence. Mr. Humphrey indicated that after the discussion Councilmember Babcock decided it best not to join the meeting by phone asking the Council to make a finding of extra ordinary circumstances.

Vice Mayor Raymond voiced his concerns on perception and setting precedents indicating when you take the job you make a commitment.

Carl Nelson provided Council with a review of his background in maritime law as well as information and the claims process regarding the current oil spill.

IV. FY 2011 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Discussion began with the Community Development Department with a decision made to provide alternative options for Council's consideration regarding the Building Department.

Town Manager Stewart addressed concerns from Vice Mayor Raymond regarding short term rental revenue. Vice Mayor Raymond then discussed donations as a part of revenue as well as the status of Bay Oaks programs.

Mayor Kiker voiced his concern with spending time dealing with moving around small amounts of money in the budget when there are large projects facing the town.

Town Manager Stewart spoke on upcoming issues such as the Water Utility, Storm Water and the need for a permanent Town Hall as well as the need to educate the public on what services they receive from the town in regards to the taxes received, also the need for diversification of revenue.

Discussion ensued with the need for additional knowledge of debt and bonding, the fire department and Library mil rates and the fact that the beach front is a stimulus for the entire county. Councilmember Mandel questioned the possibility of payment in lieu of taxes for the county, fire department and library.

A decision was made to attempt to engage those from the fire district and the library to have a joint meeting regarding the issues facing the town.

Town Manager Stewart indicated he was going to proceed with budget considerations, the impact of using funds from the reserves toward the budget and an analysis of trade offs to property owners regarding a service tax.

Town Manager Stewart stated what was needed was a final budget number as well as a Millage rate.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 4 p.m.

Adopted 3/2/10

With/Without changes. Motion by List Babeack

Vote:

Maken

Michelle D. Mayher, Tøwn Clerk

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